THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (g) This Ministry has recommended for inclusion in Category I of Drug Prices Control Order 1987 drugs for eight National Health Programmes. Drugs for the STD Control Programme are being evaluated for price control recommendations to the Department of Chemicals. Policy decision regarding the Drug Prices Control Order is the responsibility of that Department.

A final list of principal drugs used for STD is being worked out by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare for onward transmission to Department of Chemicals.

Purchase of drugs for blindness for free distribution

2002. SHRI HARI SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to refer to the answer to Starred Question 8 given in the Rajya Sabha on 27th July, 1988 and state:

(a) whether chloramplenical, Tetracycline, Gentamycin, Neomycin, Prameetin, Hydrocortisone, Betamethasone, Oxytetracycline and Dexamethasone are used for the treatment of eye diseases which lead to blindness: if so, on what basis/criteria Tetracycline and Hydrocortisone were recommended for inclusion under category-I of price control and excluded other drugs;

(b) what are the names of drugs based on which Government are purchasing finished medicines for free distribution under the control of blindness programme; and

(c) what quantity was purchased of each medicine during last three years year-wise alongwith the name of medicine, pack and strength thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) Yes, Sir. These drugs are used for treatment of eye diseases, which, if untreated may lead to blindness. They are also used for treating infections and inflammations of other systems of the body. As Tetracycline is quite specific for treatment of Trachoma and Hydrocortisone represents a popularly used corticosteroid to combat any associated inflammation these drugs were recommended for inclusion under Category I.

(b) and (c) Under National Programme for Control of Blindness no purchase of drugs is being done by the Government. The States/UT Administration were given a total assistance of Rs. 15.00 lakh each year during 1985-86, 1986-87 and 1987-88 for purchase of Antibiotic eye ointment for free distribution to follow up Trachoma Control activities. The names of medicine, their pack, strength and quantity to be purchased is left to the States/UT Administration to decide.

Purchase of beer by Indian Airlines from unlicenced shops

2003. DR. R. K. PODDAR:
SHRI MOSTAFA BIN QUASEM:
SHRI SUKOMAL SEN:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian Airlines in Eastern Region has been procuring beer from unlicenced shops which would endanger lives of passengers;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the IA purchased beer from a sweer shop at Calcutta on 17th April, 1988 for IC-231 and IC-232; and